



# OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

## ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

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April 2013

Dear Catholic School Parent or Guardian:

We recently went through the difficult and painful process of closing some schools in order to stabilize all schools across the archdiocese, as part of our strategic plan, "*Pathways to Excellence*". These closures followed additional closures two years earlier.

**I am sure you share my concern that we find a "game changer" that prevents future Catholic school closures down the road -- and indeed, one that will help us to find a way our schools will flourish, and remain available for your children, and some day for their children. That "game changer" resides with legislation that would make attending private schools affordable for more families.**

Legislation is now pending that would create an Education Investment Tax Credit. This State tax credit would encourage more private donations from individuals and businesses to fund scholarships for middle-class and low-income families, so they can send their sons and daughters to Catholic schools or other private schools. This bill would also help public schools at the same time, in an even-handed way.

**A growing number of state legislators have come out in support of this legislation -- and the momentum is on our side. But, we need your help right now. Will you sign this petition and join us to show your support for the Education Investment Tax Credit? Click on <http://action.investined.org/archnewyork> or <http://bit.ly/VE7cxv>.**

Last year, the Education Investment Tax Credit Bill was approved by the New York State Senate. A similar bill is now awaiting action in the State Assembly (Bill # A.1826). Your voice and direct action today will help our campaign and put needed pressure on Albany to pass this important legislation.

**Please take a few minutes right now and sign the petition, and then tell your friends to visit <http://bit.ly/VE7cxv>.**

Let's give families what they want and deserve – the opportunity to send their children to a quality school of their choice. The Education Investment Tax Credit is the first step, but it won't pass unless we all take action right now by signing the petition and supporting the fight to preserve Catholic schools for our children. You will also receive an IRIS alert asking you to sign up if you have your email or text message on file with the school.

If you would like to learn more about archdiocesan efforts to support Catholic education, please email Michael J. Coppotelli, Associate Superintendent, at [PublicPolicy@adnyschools.org](mailto:PublicPolicy@adnyschools.org).

Thank you,

Timothy J. McNiff, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools  
Archdiocese of New York